

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The foregoing amendments in the claims are fully supported by the specification and claims as originally filed, and do not add new matter.

Prior to the present amendment, Claims 13-17 were pending in this application. With this amendment, Claim 13 has been amended to further clarify what Applicants have always regarded as their invention. Support for the amendments to Claim 13 is found in the specification at, for example, Example 1.

Claims 13-17 are pending after entry of the instant amendment. Applicants expressly reserve the right to pursue any canceled matter in subsequent continuation, divisional or continuation-in-part applications.

Claim Objections

Claims 13-17 are objected as they depend from withdrawn claims. The Examiner suggests amending claims to the elected SEQ ID NO:20.

Claims 13-17 have been amended to recite an “isolated antibody which specifically binds to a polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:20.....”. The amendment renders the objection moot.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §101

Claims 13 and 15-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 allegedly because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. The Examiner indicates that insertion of “isolated” can overcome this rejection.

Claim 13 has been amended to insert “isolated” in front of “antibody.” The rejection is thereby rendered moot.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §112, First Paragraph (Written Description) and (Scope of Enablement)

Claims 13-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement and written description requirement allegedly for the recitation of “an antibody that specifically binds to a polypeptide having at least 80% amino acid sequence identity to an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:20.”

Claim 13 has been amended to recite an antibody which specifically binds to a polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:20, wherein said antibody reduces the severity of an immune-related disease associated with the overexpression of PRO19600. The amended Claim 13 does not include the variant polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:20. Thus, the rejection is rendered moot.

Claim Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 13-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) allegedly as being anticipated by Ballinger *et al.* (WO200105825, published on 1/25/2001). The Examiner alleges that Ballinger *et al.* discloses a polypeptide that is 100% identical to SEQ ID NO:20.

Claim 13 has been amended to recite an antibody which specifically binds to a polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:20, wherein said antibody reduces the severity of an immune-related disease associated with the overexpression of PRO19600. Ballinger *et al.* does not disclose the association between the cited polypeptide and immune-related disease. Neither does this reference teach that PRO19600 is overexpressed in psoriasis. Thus, Ballinger *et al.* does not anticipate Claim 13 as it does not teach the added functional limitation of anti-PRO19600 antibody.

Claims 13-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) allegedly as being anticipated by Ballinger *et al.* (WO200105825, published on 1/25/2001). The Examiner alleges that Ballinger *et al.* discloses a polypeptide that is 100% identical to SEQ ID NO:20.

Claim 13 has been amended to recite an antibody which specifically binds to a polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:20, wherein said antibody reduces the severity of an immune-related disease associated with the overexpression of PRO19600. Ballinger *et al.* discloses a number of angiogenesis factors. It does not disclose the association between the cited polypeptide and immune-related disease. Neither does this reference teach that PRO19600 is overexpressed in psoriasis. Thus, Ballinger *et al.* does not anticipate Claim 13 as it does not teach the added functional limitation of anti-PRO19600 antibody.

Claims 13-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) allegedly as being anticipated by Haley *et al.* (Pat. No. 6586390, issued on 7/1/2003). The Examiner alleges that Haley *et al.* discloses a polypeptide that is 99.8% identical to SEQ ID NO:20.

Same as Ballinger *et al.*, and Haley *et al.* does not teach the overexpression of PRO19600 in the immune-related diseases either. Thus, by the same token, Haley *et al.* does not anticipate Claim 13 either.

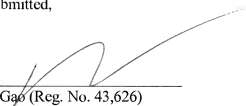
CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the present application is believed to be in *prima facie* condition for allowance, and an early action to that effect is respectfully solicited. Should there be any further issues outstanding, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned agent at the telephone number shown below.

Please charge any additional fees, including fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. **50-4634** (referencing Attorney's Docket No. **GNE-0266 R1**). Please direct any calls in connection with this application to the undersigned at the number provided below.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: October 23, 2008

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